

**COMPUTER SYSTEMS, SOFTWARE AND METHODS FOR
EMULATING A NON-VOLATILE REMOVABLE MEDIA DEVICE
USING MATERIAL ON A MASS STORAGE DEVICE**

ABSTRACT

Computer systems, software and methods that allow information from a non-volatile removable media device, such as a CD-ROM or DVD, or the like, to be placed on a mass storage device. Once the information from the non-volatile removable media device is on the mass storage device, a computer operating system can then use the

- 5 information in the same manner as it would normally use a CD-ROM, DVD, or other media inserted in its reader. In accordance with the present invention, the systems, software and methods are operative to create a boot engineering extension record (BEER) on the hard disk drive. The boot engineering extension record is configured to have SETMAX pointer that points to a user area of the hard disk drive and a service area pointer that points to a PARTIES service area that is part of a host protected area. Data derived from the removable storage media device is stored in the PARTIES service area, which will be used in an emulated removable storage media device. An operating system is configured to access 24 the PARTIES service area so that the data that emulates the removable storage media device is available to a user. The operating system is also configured to access the user area, which provides for access to user applications and user data of a user of the computer system.
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